

EUROPEAN HISTORY
SECTION II
Total Time – 1 hour, 30 minutes

Question 1 (Document-Based Question)

Suggested reading and writing time: 55 minutes

It is suggested that you spend 15 minutes reading the documents and 40 minutes writing your response.

Note: You may begin writing your response before the reading period is over.

Directions: Question 1 is based on the accompanying documents. The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise.

In your response you should do the following:

- **Thesis:** Present a thesis that makes a historically defensible claim and responds to all parts of the question. The thesis must consist of one or more sentences located in one place, either in the introduction or the conclusion.
- **Argument Development:** Develop and support a cohesive argument that recognizes and accounts for historical complexity by explicitly illustrating relationships among historical evidence such as contradiction, corroboration, and/or qualification.
- **Use of the Documents:** Utilize the content of at least six of the documents to support the stated thesis or a relevant argument.
- **Sourcing the Documents:** Explain the significance of author's POV, context, audience, and/or purpose (CAP) for at least four documents.
- **Contextualization:** Situate the argument by explaining the broader historical events, developments, or processes immediately relevant to the question.
- **Outside Evidence:** Provide an example or additional piece of specific evidence beyond those found in the documents to support or qualify the argument.
- **Synthesis:** Extend the argument by explaining the connections between the argument and ONE of the following.
 - A development in a different historical period, situation, era, or geographical area.
 - A course theme and/or approach to history that is not the focus of the essay (such as political, economic, social, cultural, or intellectual history).
 - A different discipline or field of inquiry (such as economics, government and politics, art history, or anthropology).

Using specific information from the following documents, access the validity of the following statement: *The benefits of the economic and technological advances gained during the Industrial Revolution justify the ill treatment of workers during the time period.*

DOCUMENT 1

“ . . . Nothing is now done directly, or by hand; all is by rule and calculated contrivance. For the simplest operation, some helps and accompaniments, some cunning abbreviating process is in readiness . . . What wonderful accessions have thus been made, and are still making, to the physical power of mankind; how much better fed, clothed, lodged and, in all outward respects, accommodated men now are, or might be, by a given quantity of labour, is a grateful reflection which forces itself on every one. What changes, too, this addition of power is introducing into the Social System; how wealth has more and more increased, and at the same time gathered itself more and more into masses, strangely altering the old relations, and increasing the distance between the rich and the poor, will be a question for Political Economists, and a much more complex and important one than any they have yet engaged with.” *Excerpt from Thomas Carlyle’s “Signs of the Times: The ‘Mechanical Age’”(1829)*

DOCUMENT 2

What was the consequence if you had been too late?

- I was most commonly beaten.

Severely?

- Very severely, I thought.

In those mills is chastisement towards the latter part of the day going on perpetually?

- Perpetually.

So that you can hardly be in a mill without hearing constant crying?

- Never an hour, I believe.

Do you think that if the overlooker were naturally a humane person it would still be found necessary for him to beat the children, in order to keep up their attention and vigilance at the termination of those extraordinary days of labour?

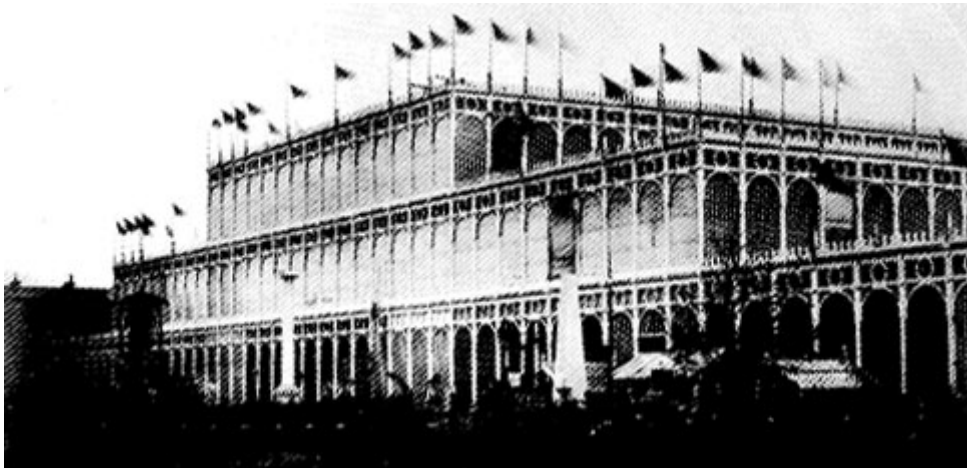
- Yes; the machines turns off a regular quantity of cardings, and of course, the must keep as regularly to their work the whole of the day; they must keep with the machine, and therefore however humane the slubber may be, as he must keep up with the machine or be found fault with, he spurs the children to keep up also by various means but that which he commonly resorts to is to strap them when they become drowsy.

At the time when you were beaten for not keeping up with your work, were you anxious to have done it if you possibly could?

- Yes; the dread of being beaten if we could not keep up with our work was a sufficient impulse to keep us to it if we could.

Testimony of Matthew Crabtree, 22 year-old called to testify before the Sadler Committee about his experiences as a child laborer in an English factory

DOCUMENT 3



The Crystal Palace (1851)

DOCUMENT 4

“Factory labour is a species of work, in some respects singularly unfitted for children. Cooped up in a heated atmosphere, debarred the necessary exercise, remaining in one position for a series of hours, one set or system of muscles alone called into activity, it cannot be wondered at – that its effects are injurious to the physical growth of a child. Where the bony system is still imperfect, the vertical position it is compelled to retain, influences its direction; the spinal column bends beneath the weight of the head, bulges out laterally, or is dragged forward by the weight of the parts composing the chest, the pelvis yields beneath the opposing pressure downwards, and the resistance given by the thigh-bones; its capacity is lessened, sometimes more and sometimes less; the legs curve, and the whole body loses height, in consequence of this general yielding and bending of its parts.”

Excerpt from The Manufacturing Population of England (1833) by P. Gaskell, a medical observer

DOCUMENT 5

“This island is pre-eminent among civilized nations for the prodigious development of its factory wealth, and has been therefore long viewed with a jealous admiration by foreign powers . . . The blessings which physio-mechanical science has bestowed on society, and the means it has still in store for ameliorating the lot of mankind, have been too little dwelt upon; while on the other hand, it has been accused of lending itself to the rich capitalists as an instrument for harassing the poor, and of exacting from the operative an acceleration rate of work. It has been said, for example, that the steam-engine now drives the power-looms with such velocity as to urge on their attendant weavers at the same rapid pace; but that the hand-weaver, not being subjected to this restless agent, can throw his shuttle and move his treddles at his convenience. There is, however, this difference in the two cases, that in the factory, every member of the loom is so adjusted, that the driving force leaves the attendant nearly nothing at all to do, certainly no muscular fatigue to sustain, while it procures for him good, unfailing wages, besides a healthy workshop *gratis*; whereas the non-factory weaver, having everything to execute by muscular exertion, finds the labour irksome, makes in consequence innumerable short pauses, separately of little account, but great when added together; earns therefore proportionally low wages, while he loses his health by poor diet and the dampness of his hovel . . .”

Excerpt from The Philosophy of Manufacturers (1835), by Andrew Ure, a professor at the University of Glasgow and an enthusiast for the new manufacturing system

DOCUMENT 6

“When women have children thick (fast) they are compelled to take them down early. I have been married 19 years and have had 10 births; seven are in life. When on Sir John’s work was a carrier of coals, which caused me to miscarry five times from the strains, and was very ill after each. Putting is no so oppressive; last child was born on Saturday morning, and I was at work on the Friday night . . . Once met with an accident; a coal brake my cheek-bone, which kept me idle some weeks . . . I have wrought below 30 years, and so has my man; he is getting touched in the breath now. None of the children read, as the work is no regular. I did read once, but no able to attend to it now; when I go below lassie 10 years of age keeps house and makes the broth or stir-about . . .”

Testimony of Isabel Wilson, a 38 year-old coal putter; gathered by Ashley’s Mines Commission

DOCUMENT 7

It is alleged that the children who labour in factories are often cruelly beaten by the spinners or overlookers that their feeble limbs become distorted by continual standing and stooping, and they grow up cripples. That they are compelled to work thirteen, fourteen or fifteen hours per day. Views such as these have been repeatedly given of factory labour which have persuaded many to think they must be true. But this is the exception not the rule . . . If a spinner can now produce as much in a day as he could last century have produced in a year, and if goods which formerly required eight months to bleach, are now bleached in two days, surely these are the very causes of the amazing extension of the manufacture, and are therefore, subjects of rejoicing, not of lamentation

Excerpt from The History of the Cotton Manufacture (1835), by Edward Baines, a factory owner

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